

Administrator Report

Superintendent Office - Pauline Harvey

First and foremost, I want to take a minute to remember our former employee, our new M&O Director, Luke Parker, whom was taken tragically on November 30th in an airplane accident. We send up prayers for his family and loved ones in Oklahoma. We also extend our condolences to the student's family whom also passed here in the North Slope.

We are in the final stretch for the end of the second quarter, which ends on December 18, 2020. Our principals and teachers have also been making preparations for their re-entry into the region from their winter break. All the schools will be preparing their packets and lessons for the beginning of the new year in January to teach remotely until they come out of quarantine. There are many staff that will choose to stay hunkered down at their sites, but we also have others whom are making plans to go and visit their families and loved ones out of the district. We wish everyone well and safe travels.

We will begin our fy21-22 budget season with Fasil Limani at the helm of first meeting with the principals and SACS to attend to their needs for next year, as well as planning for a reduction or an increase in the budget, so we are prepared for either scenario. Our budget audit is due into the state December 10th. Mr. Limani has been working hard on this process.

We are looking forward to putting together our implementation plan for the 2020-2021 school year with On Strategy. We have been collecting data from directors and principals and will be meeting with the facilitators in a board retreat in January 2021 to finalize the plan for this year. We are excited to have a plan that we can begin collecting measurements for.

The final phase of our firewall installation is happening in Anchorage, and Mr. Haimes will be returning to complete the process of installing the firewalls into the village sites. He will then begin working closely with ASTAC/GCI for an agreement to provide a direct connection from homes to the school. He will explain more in his report.

I hold weekly meetings on Mondays with first my directors and then my principals to share new information from the state and to give updates on the Covid pandemic. We also use this time to field concerns or questions our team may have.

Assistant Superintendent- Mark Roseberry

This past month I worked with the curriculum department on the development of the performance matters data analytics program. Principals and counselors had an initial 1-day training in November. The powerschool service helps us track students and identify students who are at-risk using multiple points of data. This is the pilot year for this program and we are developing as we go. We are currently in the process of learning about the full functionality of this platform. This is a tool that will help our administrators, counselors and teachers identify and assist our at-risk students and provide much needed data that will help us adjust our instruction and intervention strategies in ways that support the success of all students.

Worked closely with the curriculum director, Student services director and principals in regard to the development, planning and implementation of various grants, and school improvement plans, aligning school STEPP plans with the new strategic plan. Our goal is to have a comprehensive school plan that addresses student outcomes and monitors achievement of the plan goals based on student outcomes.

Met with principals to discuss the performance of their school the first quarter. Each site is utilizing their STEPP plans to guide school improvement. This is a challenging and sometimes stressful time for our education staff as they are providing education services in a constantly changing environment. Staff, students and parents are affected by changes that can occur in a moment's notice due to COVID cases numbers and possible exposures. The COVID teams are working well for all sites, these teams are made up of the various stakeholders in the community and the participants have done a wonderful job in addressing COVID related issues, making recommendations for risk levels, status changes and other concerns that arise in the community. While the COVID restraints and mandates could become a point of contention, the COVID teams have been able to bring stakeholders together to discuss concerns and arrive at a consensus rather than ongoing conflict. As a result of COVID team implementation, our district has been able to reduce disruptions in the day to day operations of our schools.

Met with the Inupiat department to provide support as they develop a plan for their two pronged focus: The continued development and implementation of Mapkuq units and further developing the language acquisition courses and materials. The Inupiat Ed staff have been working collaboratively as they are developing a departmental plan that incorporates the new strategic plan goals.

Working closely with Qatqinniagvik to develop the alternative plans for providing CTE opportunities to students in the second semester in lieu of We are working closely with Ilisagvik College to utilize their staff to offer dual credit CTE courses to our students. Further details of the activities are listed in the CTE report section.

Assisted the M & O director to determine the availability of current funds and to determine the basic need for current maintenance needs, discuss standard operating procedures and provide historical knowledge information that was used to support improved M & O operations.

COVID-19 Update - Lisa Peterson

Since our last meeting, three schools were briefly forced into "High/Red Safety Risk" status due to positive cases being reported in their villages. The schools affected were Tikigag School, Point Hope, Nuiqsut Trapper School, Nuiqsut, and most recently, Kali School, Point Lay. These schools' status changes coincided with the issuance of "Hunker Down Orders" by their communities. Barrow schools remain on "High/Red Safety Risk" status, and the Barrow schools' status is largely determined by Executive Order 10-2020, a Hunker Down Order that has been issued by the North Slope Borough Mayor; due to increasing positive COVID 19 cases in the North Slope Borough region, mainly, Utqiagvik, the Hunker Down Order has been routinely extended at two week intervals since the first one was issued on September 1st. Currently, the Barrow COVID 19 Response Team is looking into pandemic mitigation solutions for a possible return to normalcy or at least, an implementation of a blended learning model as dictated under "Medium/Yellow Safety Risk" status.

At this time, there are no concrete reports as to how the Thanksgiving holiday break has affected communities as far as a surge in COVID 19 cases. However, with the winter holiday break coming up at the end of the month and with the expected travel among many community residents and school staff, it is anticipated that all NSBSD schools will return in January on "High/Red Safety Risk" status. Tentatively, January 19, 2021, is the agreed upon return to appropriate individual school's safety risk status. However, there is no way of predicting the impact holiday travel will have on COVID 19 cases in the future. January 19 was chosen because that date allows for the designated quarantine period of 14 days. Please, note, students are expected to return to school after winter break as indicated on the district approved school calendars. School is in session, but students will be instructed by way of distance delivery-

remote learning. Teachers are in the process of compiling instructional materials to be distributed prior to the break. As recently reported, the full 14 day quarantine may not be necessary to curve the spread of COVID 19, and with that news in mind, at least, one village school administrator has expressed an interest in returning to their “Medium/Yellow Safety Risk” status prior to January 19, but again, there is no way of predicting what the future holds as far as the pandemic is concerned.

Mitigation measures that are being considered are: instituting mandatory face masks for students and for staff; face shields to protect eyes worn in conjunction with masks that cover noses and mouths; the idea of Plexiglas dividers in classrooms has been explored but the effectiveness of these dividers are questionable and there are other concerns; and of course, public health guidelines of handwashing and of social distancing will be instituted and/or encouraged.

The latest Hunker Down Order in Utqiagvik is set to expire on December 14, 2020 at 11:59 PM; the Hunker Down Orders in Nuiqsut and in Point Hope were lifted on November 27 and November 28, respectively, and as of right now, Nuiqsut Trapper School will return to “Medium/Yellow Safety Risk” status on December 7. At the time of this report writing, Point Lay, home of Kali School, is on an undetermined dated Hunker Down Order, and Kali School is working out the logistics for delivering instructional materials and meals. The Kali School staff is using the VHF to communicate with families.

Current statistics, as of December 2, 2020, on COVID 19 cases in the North Slope Borough are as follows: 77 active cases, including non-residents; 24 North Slope residents have recovered based on CDC guidelines, this week; and since the pandemic began, there has been a total of 474 North Slope Borough residents combined with nono-residents which have tested positive for COVID 19.

Curriculum & Instruction - Liz Noble

As we continue to identify ways to support instructional staff and students the 2nd District wide In-Service was held November 11. Ricky Robertson provided social emotional support strategies for teachers and students. We also targeted intervention supports and a selection of webinars to align with each teacher's personal professional goals. Inupiaq Ed. Department focused on Vocabulary Exercises in the morning and Inupiaq Motivational Phrases in the afternoon.

Survey responses are available for your review.

1. PathBlazers (Compass) has been set up for all K-8th grade students. Students can now access the program through Clever. We are working on uploading NWEA scores to the program, which will automatically build individual learning paths for your students. If students did not MAP test this year, the 19/20 winter benchmark assessment data will be uploaded.
2. Aimsweb data will soon be uploaded to MilePost. Updated Aimsweb data has not been available via Milepost in some time. Hopefully having all the information in MilePost again will help streamline building and documenting interventions. Also, Khan Academy has been added to MilePost as an intervention strategy.
3. Renaissance progress monitoring has been turned on. Another tool that some teachers will find useful.
4. The Assessment Specialist joined the DEED team for the District Test Coordinator meeting. The direction given from the Commissioner is to proceed as if we will be administering the PEAKS assessment this spring. Everyone had questions and there were a million “what ifs”, but we were told to move forward and that as we get closer to the

testing window DEED will update us with any changes in the status quo. With that direction, we will again be administering the computer based assessment this year, unless a student needs a paper based assessment as an accommodation. Also during the training, the Assessment Specialist learned PEAKS assessment is available on iPads. NSBSD has not used the iPad in the past and our goal is to utilize this resource as soon as possible for PEAKS assessment.

5. All of the Robotics Kits have been sent to sites.
6. Instructional Specialist continues to support Wainwright as a Second Grade Instructor through December 14.
7. The Battle of the Books(BOB) program is off to a slow start but we continue to move forward. The District Librarian has been in conversations with the state coordinators about what the BOB competitions will look like during the pandemic and are still in the planning process.
8. The District Librarian has also been coordinating with Kaktovik principal and teachers to get their new library off the ground. She states “Todd and his team have been absolutely wonderful to work with on this huge project”. She has also been working to provide additional resources for teachers such as library materials and pulling together book orders.
9. The C&I team has worked diligently to import/export and format PowerSchool Performance Matters as a tool for identifying At-Risk population. Administrators and Counselors were introduced to the software in November and we’ll follow with Teacher training in January.

Student Services - Lori Roth

The Student Services Department continues to move forward to provide special education services to all our students. Currently, NSBSD has 244 students who receive special education services in various environments and through different methods. All teachers and paraprofessionals have been working collaboratively with the related service providers (occupation therapy, physical therapy, speech, etc) to provide services based on schedules and internet capabilities. Services are being provided, but may look different depending on the restrictions. Some may be delivered via phone, zoom, Google classroom, or packets. All staff have been working hard to maintain our legal timelines during these COVID times. We have been researching and setting up our Department so all evaluations can be done in person or via distance. Training is being provided to all SPED staff in the use of the Google Read/Write Toolbar and Bookshare for students who have reading challenges. Our Department would like to thank Sharene for agreeing to become our new Administrative Assistant. Thanks Sharene!

On-going support has been provided to Qargi Academy for their special education program. In our current database, Goalview, we have added Qargi as a school. Training has been provided to Wainwright Qargi staff so they can access and review their students’ documents. Training and support has also been provided to Edmentum SPED upon request.

Special Education Staff have attended 3 meetings to discuss the next Special Education database. The Team has supported Embrace and will begin moving that direction with Board support. Our next step will be partnering with NWASD to develop screens for the program that will allow for easy transferring of data across districts.

The school counselors are continuing to reach out and provide social emotional support to our students, families, and community. Due to the recent losses in Utqiagvik and COVID stressors, Integrated Behavioral Health has reached out to be available to provide individual or

group remote support. Staff and community members can call 852-0366 during the day or 1-800-478-0267 after hours. Please go to www.nsbsd.org for additional information and resources provided by Integrated Behavioral Health.

State & Federal Grants---Lori Roth

Migrant Education: the Student Services Department would like to say a big “thank-you” to our recruiters. Thanks to their hard work, as of this report, we have received state approval for 11 new Certificates of Eligibility (COE) for our families. They have been working hard interviewing, completing the required documents, and following up until the COE’s are approved. Last month, you may have heard Sharene Ahmaogak and Jen Brower on the radio with Lisa Peterson promoting awareness about NSBSD’s migrant education program. A big thank you to June Aiken, Nova Gueco, Jen Brower, Freda Frantz, Sharene Ahmaogak, MattieJo Ahgeak, Tada Nashookpuk, Carolina TenBroek, Genovena Igtanloc, and many others for their support.

Homeless: Our buildings continue to name the local Homeless Liaison. We have been very fortunate to have had training early in the year for our school counselors, home school facilitators, and building principles. The training taught us what ages to look for and possible ways we can help our students and families who are struggling. Thanks to our training, our school staff continue to look for, and identify, students and families who may be living differently during these difficult times. In October, Jen Brower, Jocelyn Neidziela, and Lisa Peterson held a radio show to talk about our homeless program. A big thank-you to them all.

Indian Education: grant award has been issued for this school year. Student Services and Curriculum & Instruction are working together to set up the after school tutoring and Mapkuq mentor program. In preparation for the FY22 application process, Lori will work collaboratively with other departments to ensure all current Indian eligible students have been verified, will update, and schedule a meeting with the Federal Programs Parent Advisory Committee.

Title Grants (Title 1-IV): The Title grants continue to move forward. They have been approved and staff have been assigned. Title 1 site principals have received a copy of their budgets for building level interventions and supports.

Suicide Awareness Grant: As part of the suicide grant deliverables, Student Services is communicating with the Anchorage Daily News to place an ad in the Arctic Sounder. The half-page ad will contain hotline and emergency phone numbers to promote community awareness and outreach. The counselors, with support from Central Office staff, will be organizing a grant-funded Slope-wide “drawing for hope” as part of our suicide awareness and engagement activities.

Inupiaq Education - Ronald Brower Sr.

Inupiaq Education staff have begun review of budgetary needs with Assistant Superintendent Roseberry. Mr. Roseberry will be assisting the department with budget planning and addressing the operations for the upcoming year.

The District Objectives and Board Directed Focus for SY20-21 1.4 Inupiaq language and Culture: Implement Language and Culture programs was presented and discussed with Principals and Inupiaq Language Teachers. Ideas to increase the number of ILT and support, provide Inupiaq Learning Framework curriculum-based instruction at every grade level, Mapkuq Unit Implementation, sharing Curriculum, and information on standards with other teachers and families were addressed. Discussions included the additional amount of space and personnel that may be needed to implement Inupiaq Language and Culture programs for every grade.

HR has advised that two applicants have been received for the IED Instructional Inupiaq Language Specialist position and an interview committee is being convened to complete the interview with the applicants.

Inupiaq Language Teacher requests for translation of words and a variety of documents were provided to several village school teachers.

During the November District Inservice, the importance of Inupiaq values and what they mean to the inupiat and educators was well received. Motivational words to encourage students were also shared.

IED staff Mrs. Dora Brower continues to upgrade older files and move them into new document form to prevent their loss. Some of the materials were developed before modern technology was available and her work is preserving files from being completely lost.

The Adopt a Teacher Project was submitted to Aullagvik partner at Alaska Humanities Forum and to Assistant Superintendent Roseberry for consideration in long term retention of teachers in our communities and School District.

History of the North Slope Project -Elers in the Classroom; with Ms. Arvinelle Gandia's 5th grade students, was a fun filled hour with a lot of questions, curiosity and appreciation.

On behalf of the Barrow Whaling Captains Association, I would like to thank the staff of Hopson Middle School for joining the Barrow Whalers in unloading and participating in the sharing of the gift of the whale to the community.

Career & Technical Education-Mark Roseberry

- First Aid/ CPR course is available for schools in conjunction with Ilisagvik College. The course is in its 5th week with students at Kali School. Unfortunately, they just shifted to red covid19 status, and we will have to see how this is able to be completed.
- CTT 101 Introduction to Construction Trades is available to all schools starting Oct 26. This course requires some on-site supervision. Kali School has three students enrolled. They intend to continue throughout FY21. They are currently impacted by covid19 red status.
- BMT 131 Electrical Maintenance Level 1 is available to all schools starting in January. This course is fully online and asynchronous in delivery. No schools expressed interest in this to date.
- Ilisagvik Spring courses and paperwork were distributed to all district counselors. We have asked for a December 11 preferred deadline for paperwork submission.
- We are pursuing ways to get proctors certified for written testing for student driver learner's permits. We are trying to be ready for them to complete the face-to-face training components when travel restrictions ease. We are working with Ilisagvik to develop a plan for the spring semester
- Paxton-Patterson professional development is available to all interested personnel. Implementation of the career exploration modules will begin on a site specific basis following staff training. Nuiqsut Trapper School has requested 5 modules be shipped to them ASAP.
- Project Lead the Way training is set up to occur January 20 and 27 for up to 30 teachers grades PreK-5 throughout the district.
- Mr. Samuelu is working with Mr. Calderwood and the Arts Action Committee to create materials for districtwide virtual winter productions.

- ASVAB testing is available for all schools to provide career guidance for students starting their 10th grade year. Each village school is able to proctor testing on-site and will have Zoom follow up with military personnel for interpretation.
- The first Perkins Committee meeting was held October 21, the second on November 18, and the next one is scheduled for January.
- Student CTE interest surveys were distributed to all schools districtwide. This survey will inform virtual program offerings for the remainder of the school year. I have shared these surveys with onsite administrators and school counselors in hope they will be able to use them in their schools.
- Old Top of the World renovation construction activities will begin at the beginning of 2022 and an update on the construction schedule will be available in January.

Human Resources - Naomi Digitaki

Open enrollment for benefits: December 1- December 15

EAP to begin January 2021

Employee complaints/concerns in various stages of resolution

Gratitude to Liz Nobel & Kathleen Fisher for instructional support for Alak School

3 Type M teacher applications are being processed - two for Qargi Academy & one for Alak School

Quarantine solutions for village employees while in transit in Barrow after the holidays is on the table. Gratitude to Principal Jenkins at BHS and Assistant Principal Mulvenon at HMS for offering to host and provide overnight accommodation options for village bound teachers after the winter holidays - an idea supported by the CO admin team.

Finding qualified, skilled, and competent employees to fill vacant spots continues to be a challenge. Case in point: there are over 90 applicants for two village teacher positions - the positions remain unfilled for reasons primarily related to COVID for qualified applicants who were contacted. Six long-term substitutes, four of whom will be returning after the winter holidays have filled the gaps in staffing admirably.

Participation in virtual job fairs will begin in January.

Employees going off-slope are strongly encouraged to return with a PCR test taken 72 hours before landing in Utqiagvik after the winter holidays.

Information Technology - Everett Haimes

Firewall implementation:

- Sunday, 11/29/2020: Physically installed firewalls at GCI South Anchorage Distribution Center (SADC) where we determined the GCI Juniper router had insufficient ports and required replacement layer-3 switch.
- Thursday, 12/3/2020: Replacement switch installed by GCI.
- Friday, 12/4/2020: Anchorage SADC firewall implementation scheduled.
- Saturday, 12/5/2020: Initial firewall configuration, baseline CIPA compliant content filter, and integration with ZeriTier network.
- Week of Monday, 12/7/2020: Ship village firewalls, assist site personnel with installation.

Maintenance & Operations - Corey Cahoon

The Transportation Department in Barrow is still in Red High Risk status. High Risk protocol was no transportation of student on the buses. The Transportation Staff now turned their focus on delivering breakfast and lunch meals and homework packets. For the meal delivery, we deliver 280 breakfasts and lunches a day from BHS to the Community. Hopson Middle school meals gets about 220 breakfast and lunches deliveries a day. Ipalook Elementary gets 502 breakfast and lunches a day. Delivering takes up most of the day. We deliver elementary homework on Fridays and middle school homework every other Tuesday. Bhs homework is delivered when they call us. Also we had one of the teacher aids get bite by a dog. This is a hazardous job. We also are delivering meal and homework in high winds days like November 25. Whatever the school sites need we do our best to give support with delivers. In our villages they started out on the medium risk protocol. They transported students to school. The students should be wearing a mask on the bus and getting hand sanitizer to clean their hands. Some villages have gone to the high risk status because someone came in the village with the virus. We have our Itinerant Mechanic grounded in Barrow till after the holidays. The best success we have right now is our Bus Barn Garage Bay floor project is at the last step of completion. The UIC crews has painted the three bay floors now we are just waiting on the drain separator. The buses are parked inside now. We, the Transportation Department, pride ourselves in helping the community and the students in the North Slope.